AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Previously Presented) In a system that includes a set-top box that is capable of receiving and displaying a video stream and a user interface on a display device, a method for displaying and controlling the transparency of the user interface and the video stream , the method comprising:

generating screen data by mixing a user interface and a video stream;

displaying the screen data in a display window on the display device, wherein a view of the video in the display window is dependent on a level of transparency of the user interface;

wherein the system includes both:

means for adjusting the level of transparency of the user interface and a level of transparency of the video simultaneously, such that adjusting the level of transparency of the user interface necessarily adjusts the level of the video, and

means for adjusting the level of transparency of the user interface independently of the level of transparency of the video and such that adjusting the level of transparency does not affect the level of transparency of the video;

receiving input from a user, wherein the input controls the level of transparency of the user interface,; and

adjusting the level of transparency of the user interface on the display device according to the input received from the user, wherein adjusting the level of transparency of the user interface includes selectively adjusting the level of transparency of the user interface independently or simultaneously with the level of transparency of the video.

2. (Original) A method as defined in claim 1, wherein generating screen data by mixing a user interface and a video stream further comprises mixing the user interface with the video stream according to a current level of transparency.

3. (Original) A method as defined in claim 1, wherein receiving input from a user further comprises receiving input from an input device controlled by the user.

4. (Original) A method as defined in claim 3, wherein adjusting the level of transparency of the user interface further comprises adjusting a level of transparency of the video stream, wherein the level of transparency of the video stream increases if the level of transparency of the user interface decreases and wherein the level of transparency of the video stream decreases if the level of transparency of the user interface increases.

5. (Original) A method as defined in claim 3, wherein adjusting the level of transparency of the user interface further comprises making the user interface either more transparent or less transparent.

6. (Original) A method as defined in claim 1, wherein the user interface comprises one or more items that each have a level of transparency, the method further comprising adjusting a level of transparency for a selected item without adjusting levels of transparency for non-selected items.

7. (Original) A method as defined in claim 1, wherein adjusting the level of transparency of the user interface further comprises displaying a transparency control on the display device, wherein the transparency control is used to select a level of transparency that is applied to the user interface.

8. (Original) A method as defined in claim 1, wherein generating screen data further comprises retrieving content from a network, wherein the content is included in the user interface.

9. (Original) A method as defined in claim 1, wherein generating screen data further comprises at least one of:

receiving the video stream from a cable system;

receiving the video stream from a satellite system;

receiving the video stream from a network; and

retrieving the video stream from a storage of the set top box.

10. (Original) A method as defined in claim 1, wherein the user interface includes interactive elements related to the video stream.

11. (Original) A method as defined in claim 1, wherein displaying the screen data on the display device further comprises:

displaying the video stream using an entire screen of the display device; and

displaying the user interface using the entire screen of the display device.

12-16. (Cancelled)

17. (Previously Presented) In a system including a set top box capable of displaying video content on a display device, a method for displaying a user interface that has one or more selectable items and the video content in a single window, the method comprising:

displaying the user interface and the video content in the window, wherein the user interface includes a plurality of different selectable items, and wherein the a global level of transparency is associated with the user interface, and such that adjusting the global level of transparency simultaneously adjusts transparency of each of the different selectable items of the user interface;

selecting one of the plurality of different items included in the user interface, wherein the selected item has a level of transparency that is independent of the global level of transparency; and

adjusting the level of transparency of the selected item according to input received from a user, the input comprising selection of one or more buttons on a remote control device of the set-top box, wherein the level of transparency of the selected item is adjusted independently of the global level of transparency, such that when the level of transparency of the selected item is adjusted, the global level of transparency remains unchanged.

18. (Original) A method as defined in claim 17, wherein selecting an item included in the user interface further comprises:

selecting multiple items in the user interface; and

simultaneously adjusting the levels of transparency for each of the selected items without affecting the global level of transparency.

19. (Original) A method as defined in claim 17, further comprising adjusting the global level of transparency of the user interface according to input received from a user.

20. (Original) A method as defined in claim 19, wherein displaying the user interface and the video content in the window further comprises generating screen data by mixing the user interface with the video content.

21. (Original) A method as defined in claim 17, wherein the window occupies all of an available display area of the display device.

22. (Original) A computer program product having a computer readable medium containing computer executable instructions for performing the method of claim 17.

23. (Previously Presented)A computer program product for use in a system that includes a set-top box that is capable of displaying a video stream that is received from a video source or retrieved from a storage of a set top box with a user interface, the computer program product comprising one or more computer-readable media having computer-executable instructions for implementing a method for simultaneously displaying and controlling the transparency of the user interface with the video stream , the method comprising:

generating screen data by mixing a user interface and a video stream;

displaying the screen data in a display window on the display device, wherein a view of the video in the display window is dependent on a level of transparency of the user interface;

wherein the system includes both:

means for adjusting the level of transparency of the user interface and a level of transparency of the video simultaneously, such that adjusting the level of transparency of the user interface necessarily adjusts the level of the video, and

means for adjusting the level of transparency of the user interface independently of the level of transparency of the video and such that adjusting the level of transparency does not affect the level of transparency of the video;

receiving input from a user, wherein the input controls the level of transparency of the user interface,; and

adjusting the level of transparency of the user interface on the display device according to the input received from the user, wherein adjusting the level of transparency of the user interface includes selectively adjusting the level of transparency of the user interface independently or simultaneously with the level of transparency of the video.

24. (Original) A computer program product as defined in claim 23, wherein generating screen data by mixing a user interface and a video stream further comprises mixing the user interface with the video stream according to a current level of transparency.

25. (Original) A computer program product as defined in claim 23, wherein receiving input from a user further comprises receiving input from an input device controlled by the user.

26. (Original) A computer program product as defined in claim 25, wherein adjusting the level of transparency of the user interface further comprises adjusting a level of transparency of the video stream, wherein the level of transparency of the video stream increases if the level of transparency of the user interface decreases and wherein the level of transparency of the video stream decreases if the level of transparency of the user interface increases.

27. (Original) A computer program product as defined in claim 25, wherein adjusting the level of transparency of the user interface further comprises making the user interface either more or less transparent.

28. (Original) A computer program product as defined in claim 23, wherein the user interface comprises one or more items that each have a level of transparency, the method further comprising adjusting a level of transparency for a selected item without adjusting levels of transparency for non-selected items.

29. (Original) A computer program product as defined in claim 23, wherein adjusting the level of transparency of the user interface further comprises displaying a transparency control on the display device, wherein the transparency control is used to select a level of transparency that is applied to the user interface.

30. (Original) A computer program product as defined in claim 23, wherein generating screen data further comprises retrieving content from a network, wherein the content is included in the user interface.

31. (Original) A computer program product as defined in claim 23, wherein generating screen data further comprises at least one of:

receiving the video stream from a cable system;

receiving the video stream from a satellite system;

receiving the video stream from a network; and

retrieving the video stream from a storage of the set top box.

32. (Original) A computer program product as defined in claim 23, wherein the user interface includes interactive elements related to the video stream.

33. (Original) A computer program product as defined in claim 23, wherein displaying the screen data on the display device further comprises:

displaying the video stream using an entire screen of the display device; and

displaying the user interface using the entire screen of the display device.

34-42. (Cancelled)